

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 052215
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 /032 R

DRAFTED BY IO:GBHELMAN:MR
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
IO:GADALLEY
EUR/CE/ELAUDERDALE
-----071434 011057Z /15

R 010141Z FAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:UNHRC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG CANDIDACY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. FRG MINISTER BAZING CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY (IO) HELMAN FEBRUARY 28 TO ASK FOR US SUPPORT
OF FRG CANDIDACY FOR SEAT ON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
BEGINNING 1979. BAZING EXPLAINED THAT FRG HAS A
CONTINUING STRONG INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS
AND ATTACHES SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO ITS VOCATION IN
THIS FIELD. HE SAID THAT HE IS AWARE OF AT LEAST
FOUR CANDIDATES (UK, ITALY, CANADA, NETHERLANDS) FOR
THE TWO WEO SEATS, AND THERE MAY WELL BE OTHERS.
THE FRG FULLY EXPECTS THE UK, AS A PERMANENT MEMBER,
TO HAVE AN UNBREAKABLE GRIP ON ONE OF THE TWO
VACANCIES. CONSEQUENTLY, FRG SEES ITSELF COMPETING
WITH THREE AND PERHAPS MORE GOVERNMENTS FOR THE OTHER
SEAT. - - -
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2. IN RESPONSE, HELMAN WELCOMED FRG PRESENTATION.
HE EXPLAINED TRADITIONAL US POLICY OF WITHHOLDING ITS
SUPPORT FOR ANY CANDIDATE UNTIL REGIONAL GROUP
ENDORSEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED. AT THAT POINT, HELMAN
SAID HE IS CONFIDENT THAT US WOULD HAPPILY SUPPORT

THE FRG AND LOOK FORWARD TO CLOSE COLLABORATION

IN THE HRC ITSELF. BAZING SAID THAT HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD US POSITION, WISDOM OF WHICH IS DEMONSTRATED BY THE DIFFICULTY OF CHOOSING BETWEEN FRIENDS AND ALLIES SUCH AS FRG, ITALY, CANADA AND PERHAPS OTHERS.

VANCE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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